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TUESDAY
JULY 28, 1953

The day broke cloudy and remained so. The beach is marvelous, miles wide and gently sloping. I took a long walk on it.

Before lunch I had an aperitif with Roger Féral of France-Soir, a brother of Pierre Lazareff.

There are several French friends at the hotel, amongst them Monsieur and Madame Porthault and Monsieur Ordel of tennis fame, who presented me to Henri Cochet, still spare and sinewy. Madame André, the Prefect and the Sub-Prefect of the Nantes region, have abundantly provided us with flowers as well as excellent fruit.

The French papers are full of articles on the necessity of ending the Indo-China war, hoping [redacted] the Korean truce may prove contagious.

Eden arrived back in England Sunday. Apparently his third gall bladder operation, this time in Boston, was successful.

Sardines fresh from the adjoining fishing village for lunch, washed down literally with floods of Muscadet. Much teasing of Audrey about her red-headed beau.

Many books demanding to be read -- The Unknown Warriors, by my dear friend Pierre de Bénouville, Amours Tendres et Tragiques by Jules Bertaut, D'Eon Chevalier et Chevalière by André Frank (an elucidation of the mystery as to whether he was man or woman), The Federalist, Guy de Carmoy's Fortune de l'Europe with a flattering and undeserved dedication, and a few others, including Walt Rostow's profound study on "Some Aspects of United States Policy towards the Soviet Union and its European Satellites". This reminds me of the grammatical difficulty of deciding when [redacted] to use "toward" versus "towards".

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This afternoon the sun came out and Audrey and I went swimming while Peasie made an enterprising bicycle trip to Le Croisic. After dinner we went to the center of the village on foot to see a movie, but the house was sold out.